

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-16 (cancelled).

17. (currently amended): Isolated Strain-strain of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* deposited in the CNCM under the number I-2971 on 12 February 2003.

18. (currently amended): Isolated Strain-strain of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* deposited in the CNCM under the number I-3142 on 25 November 2003.

19. (currently amended): Isolated Strain-strain of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* deposited in the CNCM under the number I-3143 on 25 November 2003.

20. (currently amended): Isolated Strain-strain of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* obtained by ~~one or more hybridizations or by mutation of~~ hybridizing or mutating a strain according to claim 17, which in test PT₂, give a decrease in the proof time relative to the reference strain NCYC 996 which is equal to at least 80% of the decrease in proof time obtained in test PT₂ with strain I-2971 according to claim 17 relative to said reference strain NCYC 996.

21. (currently amended): The Strain-strain according to claim 20, which, in test PT₂, gives a decrease in the proof time relative to the reference strain NCYC 996 which is equal to at

least ~~80~~ 90 % of the decrease in proof time obtained in test PT₂ with strain I-2971 according to claim ~~1~~ 17 relative to said reference strain NCYC 996, ~~preferably at least 85 % and even more preferably at least 90 % of the decrease in proof time obtained in test PT₂ with strain I-2971 relative to the reference strain NCYC 996.~~

22. (currently amended): ~~A Baker's~~ baker's yeast obtained by cultivating a strain according to claim 17, 18, 19, or 20, 38 or 40.

23. (currently amended): ~~Baker's~~ The baker's yeast according to claim 22, obtained by cultivating ~~the said~~ strain with adaptation to the presence of weak organic acids.

24. (currently amended): ~~Baker's~~ The baker's yeast according to claim 22, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the yeast is a yeast selected in the group consisting of yeast creams, compressed yeasts and dry yeasts.

25. (currently amended): ~~Baker's~~ The baker's yeast according to claim 24, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the yeast is a dry yeast, ~~preferably an instant dry yeast.~~

26. (currently amended): ~~Bread~~ A bread-making dough containing a baker's yeast according to claim 22.

27. (currently amended): ~~Bread~~ The bread-making dough according to claim 26 in which fermentation takes place in the presence of an osmotic pressure such as that existing in

doughs containing at least 15 % of sugar relative to the mass of flour, ~~preferably at least 25 % of sugar relative to the mass of flour and even more preferably 40 % or more sugar relative to the mass of flour.~~

28. (currently amended): ~~Bread~~The bread-making dough according to claim 27, characterized in ~~that wherein~~ it contains mould inhibitors, ~~preferably in the form of weak organic acids and/or the salts thereof, and more preferably in the form of propionates.~~

29. (currently amended): ~~Method~~A method of preparation of a bread-making dough comprising ~~the use of a yeast~~ the steps of mixing dough ingredients and of adding a yeast according to claim 22.

30. (currently amended): ~~Method~~A method of preparation of a baked bread product comprising the baking of a bread-making dough according to claim 26.

31. (currently amended): ~~Bread~~A bread product obtainable by the method according to claim 30.

32. (currently amended): ~~Bread~~A bread-making dough containing a baker's yeast according to claim 23.

33. (currently amended): ~~Bread~~The bread-making dough according to claim 32 in which fermentation takes place in the presence of an osmotic pressure such as that existing in

doughs containing at least 15 % of sugar relative to the mass of flour, ~~preferably at least 25 % of sugar relative to the mass of flour and even more preferably 40 % or more sugar relative to the mass of flour.~~

34. (currently amended): ~~Bread~~The bread-making dough according to claim 33, ~~characterized in that wherein it contains mould inhibitors, preferably in the form of weak organic acids and/or the salts thereof, and more preferably in the form of propionates.~~

35. (currently amended): ~~Method~~A method of preparation of a bread-making dough comprising ~~the use of a yeast~~the steps of mixing dough ingredients and of adding a yeast according to claim 23.

36. (currently amended): ~~Method~~A method of preparation of a baked bread product comprising the baking of a bread-making dough according to claim 32.

37. (currently amended): ~~Bread~~A bread product obtainable by the method according to claim 36.

38. (new): An isolated strain of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* obtained by one or more hybridizations or by mutation of the strain according to claim 18, which, in test PT₂, gives a decrease in the proof time relative to the reference strain NCYC 996 which is equal to at least 80% of the decrease in proof time obtained in test PT₂ with strain I-2971 according to claim 17 relative to said reference strain NCYC 966.

39. (new): The strain according to claim 38 which, in test PT₂, gives a decrease in the proof time relative to the reference strain NCYC 996 which is equal to at least 90% of the decrease in proof time obtained in test PT₂ with strain I-2971 according to claim 17 relative to said reference strain NCYC 966.

40. (new): An isolated strain of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* obtained by one or more hybridizations or by mutation of the strain according to claim 19, which, in test PT₂, gives a decrease in the proof time relative to the reference strain NCYC 996 which is equal to at least 80% of the decrease in proof time obtained in test PT₂ with strain I-2971 according to claim 17 relative to said reference strain NCYC 966.

41. (new): The strain according to claim 39, which in test PT₂, gives a decrease in the proof time relative to the reference strain NCYC 996 which is equal to at least 90% of the decrease in proof time obtained in test PT₂ with strain I-2971 according to claim 17 relative to said reference strain NCYC 966.